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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BAREC SUPPORTERS CONTINUE TO GROW

The SaveBAREC No on Measures A and B Committee have aligned with Friends of BAREC, another group against the State and SummerHill housing developments. Both groups are against the sale of the last 17 acres of publicly owned open space in Santa Clara. Both groups consider the sale a land grab that would enable a pre-selected land developer to use more than 60% of the land for million dollar homes and reaping a handsome profit rather than allowing Santa Clara citizens to decide how the land will be used.

The developers are making the public believe that the vote is about offering our senior citizens “affordable housing,” yet in reality only 18% of the land will be used for this cause. There is also inaccurate information published in the City newspaper regarding this. As seen in the latest issue of Inside Santa Clara, the quarterly paper created by the City of Santa Clara and sent to all Santa Clara residents, the paper stated the project would “include up to 265 units” of senior housing, when in fact the number is 162 units, a 60% exaggeration by the City. The Deputy City Manager has acknowledged this error, stating the “error was regrettable” and “I apologize that it occurred.” This is the last issue citizens will receive before the vote on February 5, 2008.

The developers continue to pour money into their campaign, creating many direct mailings, television ads, phone banking, and other out-of-state support. Ironically, the facts about the development are not being shared and the developer’s campaign is inappropriately highlighting the senior housing rather than disclosing the profitable plans for million dollar housing. “I got a call from someone in Nebraska who knew nothing about the issues. He was simply reading from a script and said he ‘was not provided with that information’ when asked details on any of the items,” a local Santa Clara businessman stated. The caller states he was with the “yes” people only when asked.

The SaveBAREC No on Measures A and B Committee and Friends of BAREC are getting strong support from the public. The lawn sign campaign is in full swing, yet someone felt it necessary to “remove” a sign from someone’s lawn near the BAREC property. Lawn signs continue to be made available by contacting the SaveBAREC No on Measures A and B Committee at 888-227-3280.

The Santa Clara Farmer’s Market tabling on Saturdays is busy, phone scripts are being handed out, and leaflets are available. The volunteers continue to show incredible energy and perseverance. It is clear that the community wants to make themselves heard and are walking precincts for this effort. Donations continue to flow into the SaveBAREC No on Measures A and B Committee so raw materials can be distributed. Leaflets are being anxiously consumed.

For additional details, visit the SaveBAREC No on Measures A and B Committee website:
www.BAREC.org.